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FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

* As Security Council reviews sanctions against Iraq, United States says Baghdad is not even close to full compliance with relevant resolutions.

* Fourth World Conference on Women hears Rwandan appeal for international support to overcome trauma of genocide.

* Secretary-General sends Special Adviser Ajello on goodwill mission to help resolve conflict over Nagorny Karabakh.

* NATO launches fresh air strikes against Bosnian Serbs; Rapid Reaction Force shells surface-to-air missile site.

* Russian Federation says NATO air strikes undermine efforts for political settlement of Bosnian conflict.

* Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is meeting commitment to close border with Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Co-Chairmen of ICFY report.

* Department of Humanitarian Affairs appeals for international assistance for Caribbean islands devastated by Hurricane Luis.

* In message for International Literacy Day, Director-General of UNESCO highlights need to educate girls and young women.

* Secretary-General appoints Andronico Adede of Kenya as Registrar of International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

* Major-General Rufus Kupolati of Nigeria is named as Chief of Staff of United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

* 1995 Clean Up the World campaign to mark fiftieth anniversary of United Nations by focusing on promoting global environmental cooperation.

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Iraq is not yet close to full compliance with Security Council resolutions, according to the Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States, Edward Gnehm. As the Council reviewed the sanctions against Iraq today, he said the Baghdad Government had lied about its weapons of mass destruction for five years, and had only recently admitted having had an extensive biological weapons programme. By its own actions, it was farther than ever from convincing the world that it was ready to rejoin the peaceful community of nations.

Mr. Gnehm stressed that the key to sanctions relief was the unqualified expression -- in word and deed -- of peaceful intentions through full compliance. "The message to Iraq's leaders should be loud and clear: no more deadlines, no more threats of non-cooperation, no more accusations that the Council is carrying out a vendetta against Iraq and its people, no more delay," he concluded.

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Rwanda's Minister for the Promotion of Women, Inyumba Aloysia, has appealed to the international community for support to address the unique situation in her country, where six million people are living with the trauma of genocide. She told the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing that 68 per cent of Rwanda's population were women. There were 500,000 widows and 400,000 orphans, some of whom were abandoned babies of rape. She noted that despite the problems it faced, Rwanda had set up a programme for the legal empowerment of women and children.

Meanwhile, as the NGO Forum in Huairou ended today, some speakers focused on the issues of unpaid work, domestic violence and international law. They called on the international community to recognize the economic contribution women made in growing food and bringing up children. That contribution had been valued at $3 trillion, and accounted for two-thirds of the work done by women.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to send his Special Adviser for special assignments on preventive and peace-making efforts, Aldo Ajello, on a goodwill mission in connection with the conflict over Nagorny Karabakh. The purpose of the mission is to demonstrate the Secretary-General's concern about the conflict and to underline his support for the peace-making efforts of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which has the leading role in assisting the peace process.

Mr. Ajello will first travel to Moscow to participate in a meeting of the Minsk Group on 11 and 12 September. He will then visit Baku, Yerevan and

Stepanakert to meet senior officials of the Governments of Azerbaijan and Armenia, as well as representatives of the Nagorny Karabakh party. Following his departure from the region, he will have talks with OSCE officials in Vienna. During his mission, Mr. Ajello will study the situation on the ground and discuss how the conflict can be resolved most quickly.

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North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) aircraft continued to attack Bosnian Serb military targets today, in the absence of any formal notification that heavy weapons would be withdrawn from the exclusion zone around Sarajevo. The Bosnian Serbs fired a surface-to-air missile at one aircraft, but did not hit it. The Rapid Reaction Force responded with artillery fire against the missile site.

Yesterday, NATO focused on some 20 targets, including logistics, communications and air-defence facilities. Since the start of Operation Deliberate Force, NATO aircraft have flown almost 2,000 sorties.

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The ongoing NATO air strikes and artillery shelling of the Bosnian Serbs undermine efforts for a political settlement, according to Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin. In a statement transmitted to the Security Council yesterday, he said the attacks went beyond the limits of Security Council decisions and drew the international community into a conflict against one of the Bosnian parties.

While declaring its peace-keeping mission, NATO had, in fact, usurped the role of both judge and bailiff, President Yeltsin continued. Should such a policy continue to be pursued, the Russian Federation would have to carefully weigh its strategy, including its approach to relations with NATO. Meanwhile, it would continue promoting the search for political solutions.

"What is most important now is to abandon the reflex use of force for a balanced approach and collective actions at the negotiating table," he said. "There is a clear understanding of this in Moscow; our partners should also understand it."

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The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) is meeting its commitment to close its border with Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. In a report on the operations of the Conference's Mission to the Federal Republic, they also concluded that there had been no commercial transshipments across the border between the two countries in the last 30 days. The report was transmitted by the Secretary-General to the Security Council in a letter dated 6 September.

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The Co-Chairmen noted that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia had broken off political and economic relations with the "Republika Srpska" on 4 August. The country had also closed its border for all transport towards the "Republika Srpska", except for food, clothing and medicine. In addition, it had prohibited Bosnian Serb leaders from staying in its territory.

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The Department of Humanitarian Affairs has launched an appeal for international assistance for the Caribbean islands of Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica and St. Kitts and Nevis, which suffered widespread damage as a result of Hurricane Luis earlier in the week. The Department has received reports of extensive damage to housing and public buildings, and disruption of water, electricity and telecommunications systems in Antigua. Dominica reported damage to its banana crop, which is its main export, while St. Kitts and Nevis reported extensive damage to its three main hospitals.

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The prevalence of female illiteracy is unacceptable, and the greatest sacrifices must be made to educate girls and young women, according to the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Federico Mayor. In a message on the occasion of International Literacy Day, he said it was vital to educate the women of tomorrow so that they could pass on what they had learned to their children.

Mr. Mayor pledged that UNESCO would step up its action on behalf of education for girls and women throughout the developing world, particularly in Africa. He expressed confidence that the international community meeting in Beijing would make a fresh commitment to supporting that action.

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Andronico Adede of Kenya has been appointed as Registrar of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Mr. Adede is the Deputy Director of the Codification Division in the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. In that capacity, he is responsible for dealing with legal and administrative issues relating to the servicing of the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the General Assembly, particularly issues pertaining to the work of the International Law Commission.

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The Secretary-General has appointed Major-General Rufus Modupe Kupolati of Nigeria as Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). The post has been vacant since December 1993. Major-General Kupolati is expected to take up his functions at the beginning of October.

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More than 104 countries are expected to participate in Clean Up the World, a community-based clean-up campaign over the weekend of 15 to 17 September. This year -- the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations -- Clean Up the World will focus on promoting global cooperation through community action for the environment.

The campaign began in Australia six years ago and evolved into a global initiative involving more than 35 million volunteers in 1993. It is organized in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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